SUBJECT No. 162.

Exemption from the payment of tolls in certain cases.

Mr. Linge Gowda, Mysore Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—In taluks where toll-gates have been established, shanbhogs and patels travelling on Government duty may be exempted from paying toll on carts.

Reply of Government.—Exemption is provided for in Government Notification No. J. 1683—Legis. 10-07-1, dated the 30th November 1907.

SUBJECT No. 163.

Exemption of iron smelters from taxation.

Mr. Lakshminarnappa, Heggaddevankote Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Formerly facilities were afforded for extracting iron from iron ore. Iron smelters are at present taxed and a fee is also levied for the removal of charcoal from forests; while this has discouraged the local iron industry, it has on the other hand encouraged the importation of foreign metal. The iron smelters may therefore be exempted from taxation or, if this is not possible, the present tax of Rs. 12 may be reduced and the smelters may be allowed to remove charcoal free of cost from forests for *bona fide* smelting purposes. This will induce the local smelters to prepare iron on a large scale.

Mr. Narasimhaiya, Malvalli Taluk.

The smelting of iron was not stopped on account of the mohatarfa tax but because iron was imported from outside and the local manufacturers did not find the work to be sufficiently remunerative.

Reply of Government.—Noted for consideration.

SUBJECT No. 164.

Sub-Registrars to be made Vice-Presidents.

Mr. Hassan Ali Beg, Mysore City Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—Sub-Registrars may be made Vice-Presidents of the municipalities at their headquarters.

Reply of Government.—Undesirable. This subject should not be brought up again.

SUBJECT No. 165.

Kandayam on lands within municipal limits to be credited to the municipality.

Mr. Hassan Ali Beg, Mysore City Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—The kandayam on lands within municipal limits may be credited to the municipality concerned.

Reply of Government.—The subject is under correspondence. Each case will be decided on its merits.

SUBJECT No. 166.

Qualification for electors to the Taluk Boards.

Mr. Venkatanaranappa, Hosdurga Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Under the rules in force, out of 15 members of Taluk Boards, 4 with certain property qualifications are elected by the people; but under the rules the patels of villages even though they are without property qualifications are entitled to vote and become members along with those possessing such qualifications. Consequently they form the majority in several instances. As patels are considered to be Government servants and are direct subordinates of the Amildars, it seems necessary to rule that they should not be permitted to vote unless they possess the requisite property qualifications like other voters.

Reply of Government.—The rule was made after careful consideration. The principle upon which the right to vote is given to patels is a sound one and Government are not prepared to disenfranchise them.

SUBJECT No. 167.

Opening of roads and establishment of schools in villages.

Mr. Lakshminarasimhachar, Chamrajnagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—In cities and taluk headquarters, roads are being opened and schools established by the Engineering and Educational Departments, the cost being met out of the contributions from the Local Funds; consequently the people in these places enjoy advantages denied to those living in villages though the latter also contribute a good deal to the General Revenues and to the Local Funds. Therefore out of the amount collected every year in these villages towards Local Funds such portion as may be deemed reasonable and expedient may be set apart and utilised for laying out roads and opening schools in them and the happiness of the villagers may be promoted.

Reply of Government.—The present rules require no alteration.

SUBJECT No. 168.

Local Fund roads.

Mr. G. Tirunarana Iyengar, Hassan District Board.

Summary of discussion.—Repairs and other works to Local Fund roads are at present executed by the Public Works Department. The contractors of that department are unable to get the work done in the proper season owing to the difficulty they find in procuring the requisite local labour and the roads are not therefore maintained in a proper condition. The District Board has not sufficient funds to increase the mileage allotments for repairs. The maintenance of the roads which are certified by the Public Works Department as having been brought up to a certain standard may be taken over by the District Board for upkeep, the repairs being executed by shanbhogs, patels or other raiyats of the villages through which the road runs. This procedure will facilitate the requisite labour being obtained for the work locally at a reduced cost.

Reply of Government.—Government have found the present system to work well. The representation cannot be considered.

SUBJECT No. 169.

Supervision of cattle-pounds in coffee estates.

Mr. K. Thammaiya, Hassan District Board.

Summary of discussion.—It is impossible for coffee planters to supervise the cattle-pounds situated in certain estates in addition to their own heavy work. As the management of such pounds by coolies results in the unsatisfactory feeding of the animals impounded, it may be entrusted to patels or other Government servants.

Reply of Government.—The matter is under correspondence.